

Hello good afternoon,

My name is Justine Reyna. I am here to give testimony in opposition to SB184 and HB5262. I have a few concerns to express before you attempt to push these bills forward.

My first concern is we currently have very clear and direct language in our constitution on who qualifies for an absentee ballot. There is no confusion. With rewording and changing the language with vague verbiage we are setting ourselves up for failure for future elections. As the constitution states we need to hold a certain standard. There should be no confusion in regards to absentee voting and who it applies to and why they would be eligible.

Also if this were to pass it would allow a mass mail out of applications. Have we done the work or have an idea of what policies would go into effect. How often do towns clean up their voter rolls ? How are we going to verify they are in fact the person voting, do they still reside at the address on file, and are they even still alive. This would all need to be done BEFORE we move forward.

Also do you today have an estimated cost for your constituents in regards to this bill? What's the cost of mail out predictions, hiring in additional poll workers, secure ballot boxes, security, and possible loss in funds due to returned ballots. Is it worth it to spend all this money on a system that seems to work just fine as is.

In 2004 our state had an estimated 78 % turnout. Followed by 2016 with a 77% turnout, to our last election during a pandemic being estimated around 79%. Looking at other states we rank very high with those voter turnout percentages. From the numbers I have seen we are doing very well. If you still feel the need to vote in favor of this bill I urge you to go back, get us exact amounts, proper solutions and security before you put our state at risk with carelessness and rushing a bill to move forward. Think before you act please. Thank you